

REMARKS

Applicant respectfully requests reconsideration of the present application in view of the foregoing amendments and in view of the reasons that follow.

Claims 1-2 and 8-9 are currently being amended. Accordingly, claims 1-14 are submitted for reconsideration.

This amendment adds, changes and/or deletes claims in this application. A detailed listing of all claims that are, or were, in the application, irrespective of whether the claim(s) remain under examination in the application, is presented, with an appropriate defined status identifier.

In the Office Action, claims 1-14 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102 as being anticipated by Tsuruya et al. (U.S. Patent No. 6,915,094). Claim 1, as amended, recites that a method for reproducing an image in an image forming apparatus comprising a plurality of color developing units comprises detecting a type and a position of each of the plurality of color developing units, storing the detected type and position of each of the plurality of color developing units in a storage unit in the image forming apparatus; and reproducing the image based on the detected type and position of each of the plurality of color developing units.

Tsuruya discloses that storage units Re-Rh are provided on developing cartridges 24a-24d and store data such as color information of the toner contained in the developing means of the respective cartridge (col. 8, lines 1-15). A control unit 100 transmits and receives data from the storage units Re-Rh via a reading/writing unit 242 and can distinguish toner color and judge the end of the life span of the cartridge based upon the information received via the reading/writing unit 242 from the storage units Re-Rh (col. 8, lines 15-25). Tsuruya further discloses that each of the developing cartridges 24a-24d are sequentially mounted to a respective predetermined mounting position of the rotary in the main unit of the image forming apparatus for each color (col. 8, lines 57-61).

In contrast to claim 1, Tsuruya fails to disclose or suggest storing the detected type and position of each of the plurality of color developing units in a storage unit in the image forming apparatus. Rather, as discussed above, each cartridge 24a-24d of Tsuruya has a storage unit Re-Rh that stores the type of toner contained in its corresponding cartridge only.

In other words, each storage unit stores the type of toner for one cartridge only, not each of the plurality of color developing units as recited in claim 1.

Furthermore, the storage units Re-Rh do not store information regarding the position of the cartridge, only the toner type and life span. Tsuruya discloses that the cartridges are mounted in a predetermined position of the rotary, meaning that each cartridge type must be positioned in its corresponding predetermined position and that the position information is not stored in storage units Re-Rh. Accordingly, for all of these reasons, claim 1 is patentably distinguishable from Tsuruya.

Claims 2-7 are patentably distinguishable from Tsuruya by virtue of their dependence from claim 1, as well as their additional recitations. Claims 8-14 are patentably distinguishable from claim Tsuruya for reasons analogous to claim 1.

Applicant believes that the present application is now in condition for allowance. Favorable reconsideration of the application as amended is respectfully requested.

The Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned by telephone if it is felt that a telephone interview would advance the prosecution of the present application.

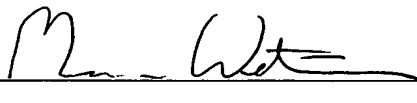
The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees which may be required regarding this application under 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.16-1.17, or credit any overpayment, to Deposit Account No. 19-0741. Should no proper payment be enclosed herewith, as by a check being in the wrong amount, unsigned, post-dated, otherwise improper or informal or even entirely missing, the Commissioner is authorized to charge the unpaid amount to Deposit Account No. 19-0741. If any extensions of time are needed for timely acceptance of

papers submitted herewith, Applicants hereby petition for such extension under 37 C.F.R.
§1.136 and authorizes payment of any such extensions fees to Deposit Account No. 19-0741.

Respectfully submitted,

Date 11/14/05

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